



USAID
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Office of Transition Initiatives

KENYA



OTI MISSION STATEMENT

To support U.S. foreign policy objectives by helping local partners advance peace and democracy in priority countries in crisis. Seizing critical windows of opportunity, OTI works on the ground to provide fast, flexible, short-term assistance targeted at key political transition and stabilization needs.

FAST FACTS

Start Date: January 2011
Budget: \$9.97 million in TI funds
\$6.3 million in CCF funds
\$1.65 million in ESF funds
\$300,000 in 1207 funds (FY11)
\$250,000 in PER funds
\$18.47 million (total to date)

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Kenya Transition Initiative (KTI) program, implemented through USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI), is part of the U.S. Government's broad based policy goals to contribute to a stable Kenyan polity that mobilizes citizen participation around a national identity and political party platforms rather than ethnic identities. The program was launched in June 2008, four months after Kenya's competing political parties adopted a peace accord and power-sharing agreement to stem devastating inter-ethnic violence that followed contested December 2007 national elections. Since then, KTI engagement in Kenya has supported both national and local-level stabilization and transition efforts targeted at recovery by mitigating political and social volatility and reducing vulnerability to violence. In pursuit of this goal, the program assists Kenyan state and non-state actors to more fully exercise their capacities and, thereby, support the following broad objectives:

- Enable public institutions to undertake fundamental reforms and to manage instability and uncertainty.
- Mobilize the public, especially the youth and key change agents, to demand accountability and reform.

During this reporting period the program held an all-team rolling assessment to review and adjust strategy and programming in all offices, and further defined strategic priorities for the coast region.

KTI was implemented by Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI), under a task order that closed in May 2011. Chemonics International, Inc. has implemented KTI under a separate task order since January 2011, and continues through May 2013. This report covers the period April 1, 2012 through June 30, 2012.

PROGRAM AREAS

Womens' Political Leadership: The upcoming general elections, tentatively scheduled for March 2013, will provide Kenyans with an unprecedented opportunity to vote for new, reform-minded leadership. Kenyan women, in particular, have much to gain, as the 2010 constitution has paved the way for active participation by women in leadership roles and the political decision-making process. The new constitution includes requirements for increased numbers of women in both elected and appointed positions. Despite this, apathy regarding womens' political participation persists, along with an electorate still unaccustomed to seeing women candidates in significant

numbers on the electoral rolls. To combat gender-based inequities, KTI is supporting a number of activities aimed at encouraging women to engage more actively in political life, and to get Kenyans to reflect on the qualities they wish to see in their leaders, including women.

Quarterly Report, April 1 – June 30, 2012

Through KTI support, the [REDACTED] initiated a project that challenged women in the region to actively campaign for political positions and to support women who have expressed interest in competing for leadership seats. The [REDACTED] organized a two-day training session for 40 selected women in Mombasa County that focused on opportunities for women under the 2010 constitution, followed by county forums in Kilifi and Mombasa where the training participants could promote awareness of the opportunities for women at the grassroots level on issues of leadership, devolution, and governance. Another set of KTI activities is highlighting the achievements of respected leaders as a way to encourage voters to reflect on the qualities they wish to see in elected officials. One of these activities, which is currently under development, will highlight the life of Chelegat Mutai, a prominent and courageous female politician from the Rift Valley, as a way to inspire and encourage other women leaders. Born and raised in Nandi County, Mutai became the first Kalenjin woman to be elected to Parliament in 1972 at the young age of 24, and is renowned for her quest to improve democracy and political accountability in Kenya during an era of political repression.

Media: Political intolerance in the North Rift continues to increase as the next general elections approach. The area has seen heightened tensions surrounding the prosecution of four national political leaders who are facing trial at the International Criminal Court (ICC) for their role in the post-election violence. Three of these politicians are of Kalenjin ethnicity and hail from the North Rift region, which was the epicenter of the post-election violence (PEV) in 2007/2008. Most of the Kalenjin community, the major ethnic group in the region, also voted against the new constitution during the 2010 Constitutional Referendum, and many remain poorly informed about many of its key provisions. Political stakes are high and political leaders are galvanizing communities along tribal lines, reviving historical ethnic grievances in an effort to garner votes and support. Politicians are already using the media to propagate messages of intolerance and negative ethnicity, which has led to concerns that important gains achieved towards peace, reconciliation and democratization could be derailed if political misinformation is not countered effectively.

The KTI program has moved to counter political misinformation, using media to disseminate information and amplify messages promoting a peaceful and smooth election process. KTI media grants include support for radio programs in English and local languages, as well as capacity building support to additional media outlets. During the quarter, KTI initiated an activity with [REDACTED], [REDACTED] radio station, to serve as a platform for conveying accurate and objective information to the Kalenjin community and provide coverage focused on reform agenda issues. The grant will run for 10 months and seeks to spread messages of peace and political accountability by building listenership through a reputation of programming objectivity. The media house will contribute 1.5 hours of airtime per week for the programming.

COUNTRY SITUATION

American Ambassador Resignation. U.S. Ambassador Scott Gration resigned at the end of June.

Saitoti Death. On June 10th, Kenyan Internal Security Minister George Saitoti and Deputy Security Minister Orwa Ojodeh were killed in a helicopter crash on the outskirts of Nairobi. Saitoti was initiating his bid to succeed President Kibaki in the next general elections, and had been a central player in the decision to send Kenyan troops to Somalia. The investigation into the cause of the crash is ongoing.

Court Cases. A local court in Kenya sentenced a man to life in prison for crimes committed during the post-election violence that followed December 2007 elections. The case represented the first time an individual had been tried and convicted by a Kenyan court for perpetrating election violence, and the decision was seen as a positive development towards rebuilding public confidence in the judiciary. Senior officials, including Director of Public Prosecutions Keriako Tobiko, have also made public statements regarding Kenya's commitment to prosecuting instances of hate speech by politicians ahead of the next general elections, and the National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC) has recommended prosecution of three Kikuyu musicians for songs alleged to contain hate speech.

International Criminal Court (ICC). ICC proceedings remain a source of tension. With the possibility that the trials of William Ruto and Uhuru Kenyatta could be delayed until after the next general elections, both are planning to continue their presidential bids.

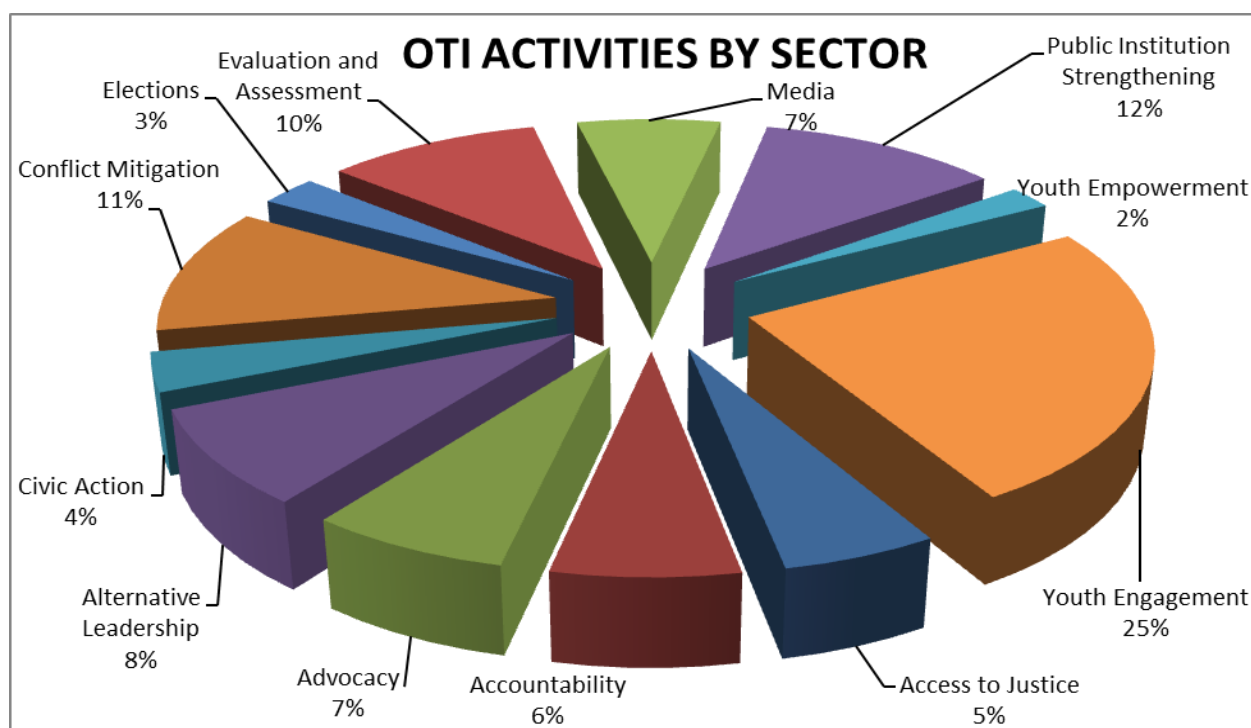
Continued Security Threats. Terrorist threats continued during the reporting period, and a number of security incidents occurred. Four Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) employees were kidnapped by armed men in the Dadaab refugee camp, but were rescued in Somalia and returned within a few days. In Garissa, 17 people were killed and numerous others injured in multiple grenade attacks on churches. Security concerns persist along the Coast, with media reports implicating both the Mombasa Republican Council (MRC) and terrorist groups such as Al-Shabaab as immediate threats. During June, the U.S. Embassy issued a security advisory for the Coast citing concerns of an imminent threat and recalled all official travelers from Mombasa, which elicited strong reactions from Kenyan officials concerned about the Coast's reputation as a tourist destination. The advisory was lifted a few days later without a major attack taking place, although a grenade attack outside Mombasa killed three people.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- July 2012 - KTI final evaluation team pre-visit
- July 2012 - Two bills on the integrity of politicians set for cabinet approval
- August 2012 - KTI-Eastleigh one-year evaluation planned

GRANTS SUMMARY

To date OTI, through implementing partner Chemonics, has funded a total of **158** activities (including cleared, completed and closed grants, short-term technical assistance and direct distribution of goods and services activities) totaling **\$4,199,372**. During this reporting period, a total of 39 activities totaling to \$1,306,459 were cleared. The breakdown by sector is as follows:



ACTIVITIES

Strengthening Voices Against Xenophobia. In October 2011, Kenyan troops were deployed to Somalia to combat the growing security threat presented by Al-Shabaab. Since the operation began, Al-Shabaab has carried out several attacks in Kenya, including bomb attacks in Nairobi and Mombasa. In addition, Al-Shabaab has increased recruitment efforts of both Somali and non-Somali Kenyans. The impact of the engagement of Kenyan troops and a massive refugee influx from Somalia has resulted in growing discrimination against both Kenyan Somalis and Muslims in many parts of the country. This dynamic has exacerbated an already-delicate and fluid political context in Kenya by increasing the possibility of xenophobic attacks. A KTI grantee, the [REDACTED], has initiated a campaign that targets diverse groups in the Rift Valley to use dialogue as a way to mitigate the spread and impact of xenophobic-based violence. [REDACTED] is working with a network of over 500 women's organizations in the Rift Valley to engage rural women and community workers of diverse backgrounds on issues of

discrimination and xenophobia. The grantee will also engage 25 participants from three counties in the Rift Valley in an effort to discuss and establish the extent and nature of discrimination against Kenyan Somali and Muslim populations. Key messages about the repercussions of negative stereotyping are already being disseminated across the county.

Reinforcing the Voice of University Students in National Leadership. Youth form approximately 75% of the Kenyan population and are key change agents in shaping the ongoing democratic and political transitions in the country. To help better prepare university students for a more effective role in national leadership, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], a Kenyan non-governmental organization (NGO), is receiving KTI support to engage university students in peaceful political dialogue and debate on campuses around the country. To date, the [REDACTED] has conducted 14 public university forums in seven universities that have reached over 1000 students. These activities have helped empower and prepare university students to proactively hold elected leaders accountable. The university students will, in turn, advocate for more accountable leadership as elections approach, and will help educate their peers on the tenets of good leadership.



Photo: USAID

Students at the African Nazarene University attend a public forum

PROGRAM EVALUATION

KTI has continued to serve as a responsive and cooperative partner in US government programming efforts aimed at fostering stability and reform in the lead up to the next general elections. During the quarter, KTI coordinated with USAID's Education and Youth (EDY) Office and accepted funds from the office to implement a select number of Yes Youth Can activities relevant to KTI's program objectives. KTI also hosted a joint coordination meeting in Eldoret for USAID staff and implementing partners from the Democracy and Governance (DG) and EDY offices. In addition, KTI hosted a luncheon visit in the Eldoret office with a US congressional delegation and the U.S. Ambassador. Internal planning activities included a project-wide rolling assessment in Nakuru which was attended by OTI Director Rob Jenkins, as well as a start-up workshop for the Coast program that was attended by USAID DG staff and other US government implementing partners.

Operational set up and recruiting for the Mombasa office was nearly completed during the reporting period. The Mombasa office is fully operational and all major positions have been filled, with the exception of procurement staff. Project development officers (PDOs) have already generated a number of activity ideas and by the end of the reporting period there were 19 activities under development.

In Nairobi, Kericho, and Eldoret, all vacant positions are now filled with well-qualified personnel. Staff hired during the quarter included two project development assistants (PDAs) in Nairobi, as well as a procurement specialist in Kericho. New staff have been trained on the requirements of their respective positions and are performing well thus far. A Chemonics home office grants specialist traveled to Kenya in June to conduct grants management training for staff from all offices, including new staff from Mombasa. The assignment also included a review of files and systems, as well as a half day workshop for a limited number of KTI partner organizations focused on the basics of USG cash grants, and aimed at preparing them for potential fixed obligation or simplified grants in the future. Feedback provided at the end of the visit was positive, and KTI received high marks for having accountable and well-managed grants systems and processes.

The pace of grant development remains the program's biggest challenge and the KTI management team is monitoring this closely. The chief of party is now spending additional time in all field offices to work more intensively with staff to develop grants and budgets together in an effort to avoid delays. Although the number of pending activities in Eldoret and Kericho has begun to fall, there is still more progress to be made. As is to be expected, the Coast team will take some time to become fully proficient in grant development procedures, but PDOs are already generating thoughtful and innovative ideas that have been yellow lighted and are being further developed.

Security remains an issue for KTI, particularly as operations expand on the Coast. The KTI SMS system is functioning well, and has been successfully tested and activated on multiple occasions to check in on KTI staff after an incident or attack. Chemonics will be reviewing its security plans and processes and making any recommended updates in the next few weeks.

Required approvals were received during the quarter to proceed with developing some activities that will support ongoing police reform efforts in Kenya. As security sector reform is a critical need at this time, the KTI team is enthusiastic about these programming opportunities.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Office of Transition Initiatives

KENYA/EASTLEIGH

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Implemented through the USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (OTI) the Kenya Transition Initiative (KTI) expanded its key objectives to include a counter extremism component in the Nairobi suburb of Eastleigh. Eastleigh has a large population of Somali immigrants with youths forming a large percentage of the population. Disenfranchisement of youth in the face of systemic marginalization, limited access to higher education, inadequate employment, crime, and corruption has weakened their resilience and increased their susceptibility to extremist ideologies. Coupled with the highly radicalized environment, youth in Eastleigh remain exposed to extremist ideologies and vulnerable to recruitment by groups such as Al-Shabaab.

To counter this threat, the KTI-Eastleigh project (KTI-E) seeks to build moderation and foster identity and self-confidence in at-risk youth to enable them to reject the recruitment efforts of extremist groups. To achieve this objective, KTI-E works with locally-based organizations and the Eastleigh community at large to respond to risk factors through a three pronged approach:

- Build capacity for moderation and non-violence
- Empower local youth
- Support youth livelihoods

GRANTS SUMMARY

Since the initiation of the KTI-E component in July 2011, KTI has funded 36 activities totaling \$809,883. A total of 8 activities totaling \$335,089 were cleared during this reporting period.

Ongoing activities

Education Development Center (EDC). To help build youth capacity to enter the Kenyan labor market, KTI-E has initiated a youth entrepreneurial training program aimed at equipping youths with the necessary skills to start and run small business enterprises. Through a grant to the U.S.-based Education Development Center (EDC), KTI-E has initiated a financial literacy training program which seeks to equip Somali youth with core financial literacy skills through the use of interactive audio technology. EDC will train approximately 120 youths in financial literacy and entrepreneurship over a three month time period, using interactive audio technology based on a model used successfully in Somalia.

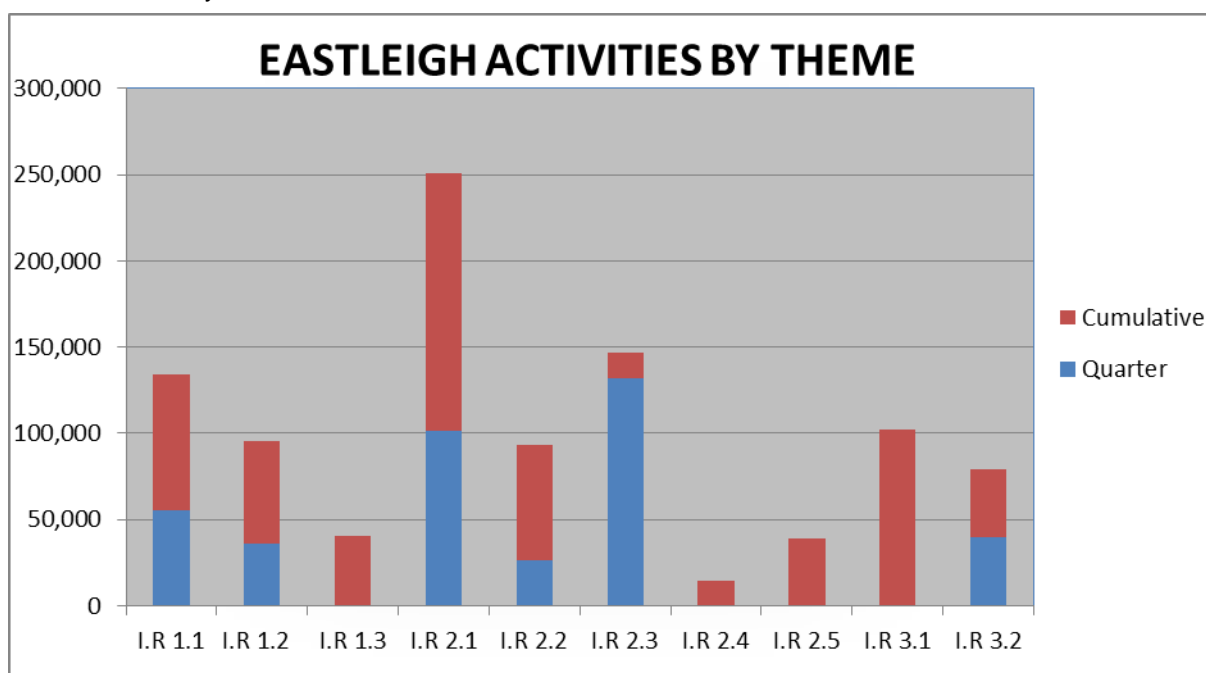
██████████. Music is a popular way to engage youth and disseminate positive messages in a fun and user-friendly manner. Through a grant to ██████████, an internationally-recognized Somali musical group, music is being used as a platform to deter youths from joining extremist groups. Through attendance of monthly peace concerts, youths are able to engage in constructive discussions on sensitive issues related to extremism and the challenges affecting their day-to-day lives.

██████████ In an effort to counter the effects of poverty and extremist influences, the ██████████, a respected community-based organization, has sought to tap into Somali culture's history of oral traditions by utilizing theatre as a medium to convey sensitive topics. Through a series of trainings and workshops, 80 youths were trained to use participatory theatre techniques to develop performances that conveyed key issues affecting their lives. The youths were split into teams with the two finalist groups given the opportunity to travel to Garissa and Mombasa to share their messages of peace in front of public audiences.

Pending activities

- **CHXEAS030 - AFTE POA! (Afterschool Program) Grantee:** [REDACTED] – This activity aims to move youth away from negative influences posed by extremist movements and provide them with a space where they can discuss sensitive issues with mentors who have shared experiences.
- **CHXEAS040 - Conflict Mitigation Using Radio (Phase one), Grantee:** [REDACTED] – In coordination with UNHCR and other partners, this activity will provide support to the [REDACTED] to set up a humanitarian broadcast information service based in the Dadaab refugee camp. The activity will facilitate the provision of current, relevant, and accurate information to refugees and host communities in Northeast Kenya to help mitigate xenophobia and anti-Somali sentiment that have increased since the deployment of Kenyan troops into Somalia in October 2011.
- **CHXEAS043 - Counseling Awareness, Grantee:** [REDACTED] – This planned activity aims to support the [REDACTED], one of the few organizations in Eastleigh that provides psycho-social support, to increase its capacity to serve the local population. The unit will provide support to Somali refugees and individuals who have experienced social or psychological trauma.
- **CHXEAS037 - Leadership Development, Grantee:** [REDACTED] – This grant will seek to train young leaders (15 men and 15 women) on finding purpose in life, taking charge of one's life, envisioning a better future, defining personal goals, and developing positive attitudes to enable them to become positive change agents in their communities.
- **CHXEAS044 - Training Focus Group Discussion Facilitators, Grantee:** [REDACTED] – This activity seeks to build the capacity of 15 Somali youth to utilize qualitative research skills, with the goal of enhancing KTI's monitoring and evaluation efforts.

The bar graph below illustrates KTI-E expenditure on grants by Sub-Intermediate Result (I.R.) and themes by quarter and cumulatively.



IR 1.1: Enhanced Advocacy Capacity and Sustained Positive Dialogue with GOK
IR 1.2: Improved Communication Channels for Youth to Discuss Sensitive Topics
IR 1.3: Improve Capacity & Structure of Moderate Voices Including Women and Religious Leaders
IR 2.1: Increased Recreational and Cultural Activities to Foster Identity
IR 2.2: Leadership Development
IR 2.3: Youth Organizations Network
IR 2.4: Counseling and Mentoring
IR 2.5: Youth Empowerment Center
IR 3.1: Improved Vocational and Professional Skills
IR 3.2: Improved Attitude for Meritocratic Work

PROGRAM EVALUATION

Overall, the Eastleigh program is progressing well. Since its inception, the team has been successful in identifying a core group of active local partners who are willing and able to work effectively towards achieving the program's goals. Security concerns regularly impact planning of KTI-E activities.

Not only is the local environment often insecure, but whenever there is a security incident that implicates a terrorist group, youth in the area can expect additional police harassment and youth gatherings to be shut down or cancelled by local authorities. There have been a number of instances where reprogramming or other adjustments have been required, and KTI staff and partners have maintained flexibility and managed these types of changes without major problems.

NEXT STEPS

- The next Eastleigh Advisory Committee sub-committee meeting will be held in July 2012.
- In August, KTI plans to engage a team of consultants to conduct a one-year assessment of the KTI-E program. The team will consist of one representative from USAID in Washington and two local consultants.
- Chemonics is finalizing a sub-contract with Cognitive Edge for a second phase of story collection that incorporates inputs from the final SenseMaker® workshop held in mid-April 2012.
- A KTI-E rolling assessment will be held after the evaluation is complete in order to review the current context and incorporate findings from the evaluation into the next work plan.